

Application No. 10/517,395
Attorney Docket No. A2-209 US

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in claim 2, wherein for an electronic

5 device comprising:

a body member having a conductive surface provided thereon, at least one rib is provided on the body member between each of the conductive surfaces and extends outwardly from the body member;

a non-conductive housing;

10 a plurality of conductive contacts connected together by said housing, respective ones of the contacts being in electrical contact with respective ones of the conductive surfaces, the contacts and housing being capable of movement relative to the conductive surfaces, yet said contacts always maintaining electrical contact with the conductive surfaces throughout the movement of the contacts and housing relative to the conductive surfaces.

- 15 4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 2~~, claim 3, further including a flex circuit electrically connected to the plurality of conductive surfaces.

6. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 2~~, wherein for an electronic device comprising:

20 a body member having a plurality of conductive surfaces provided thereon, each of the plurality of conductive surfaces is being formed from a row and a column which are electrically connected to each other, the column extending at least partially around the body member and the

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row extending along at least a portion of a length of the body member; and

a plurality of conductive contacts, respective ones of the contacts being associated with
respective ones of the conductive surfaces, the contacts being capable of movement relative to
the conductive surfaces, yet always maintaining electrical contact with the conductive surfaces
throughout the movement of the contacts relative to the conductive surfaces.

7. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, wherein each row includes at least one conductive bump thereon for providing an electrical connection between the row and a respective one of the columns.

8. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 7, wherein each column is formed from a metal track which is detachable from the body member.

9. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 8, wherein each row is formed by plating a metal surface onto the body member.

10. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, further including a flex circuit electrically connected to each of the rows.

11. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, further including at least one rib provided on the body member between each of the rows.

12. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, further including at least one rib provided on the body member between each of the columns.

13. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, further including a plurality of ribs provided on the body member between each of the columns and predetermined ones of the ribs are shorter in height than the remainder of the ribs.

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14. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, further including at least one rib provided on the body member between each of the rows and at least one rib provided on the body member between each of the columns.

5 15. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, further including a plurality of spaced apart apertures provided on the body member, respective ones of the apertures aligning with respective ones of the columns.

16. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 6, wherein each column is formed from a metal track which is detachable from the body member, each track including a portion which engages into the respective aperture.

10 17. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 2~~, claim 3, wherein the plurality of conductive surfaces are formed by plating a metal onto the body member.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

15 20. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 19~~, claim 3, wherein the ~~base~~ body member has opposite ends and further comprising a protrusion extending outwardly from each end of the ~~base~~ body member, and wherein the housing includes opposite end portions, each end portion having a recess therein, respective protrusions being mounted in the respective recesses.

21. (Canceled)

20 22. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

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24. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 3, wherein the ~~base~~
body member in cross-section is formed from a first section which is arcuate shaped and a
second section which is angled relative to the first section and connected to an end of the first
section, the contact contacting the first and second sections during movement.

5 25. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in claim 24, wherein said ~~base~~ body
member further includes a third section which is flat and is provided between said first and
second sections.

26. (Currently Amended) The hinge of claim 25 in combination with a printed wiring
board, wherein the third section of the ~~base~~ body member is attached to the printed wiring board.

10 27. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 3, wherein the
plurality of contacts are ~~contact~~ is capable of sliding movement relative to the conductive ~~surface~~
surfaces.

28. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 6, wherein said body
member is generally cylindrical.

15 29. (Currently Amended) A hinge as defined in ~~claim 1~~, claim 6, wherein said body
member is formed from two halves which when assembled form a cylinder.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

20 33. (Currently Amended) A hinge ~~as defined in claim 32~~, wherein for an electronic
device comprising:

a plurality of body members, each body member including a base wall, an aperture

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through said base wall, and a pair of walls extending outwardly from the base wall;

a conductive contact associated with each body member, each contact including coiled
spring mounted between the pair of walls of the respective body member, abutting against the
base wall of the respective body member and surrounding the aperture of the respective body
5 member, a first end of each coiled spring extending outwardly from the respective body member,
and a second end of each coiled spring extending outwardly from the respective body member;

having conductive contacts associated therewith are provided such that the apertures of
said respective body members being are aligned, and further including a pin provided through
the apertures for joining said body members together.

10 34. (Original) A hinge as defined in claim 33, wherein each body member further
includes a wall surrounding the aperture which extends outwardly from the base wall in the same
direction as the pair of walls.

35. (Canceled)

15 36. (New) A hinge as defined in claim 3, wherein said non-conductive housing has
an opening therein and said plurality of conductive contacts extend through said opening such
that opposite free ends are provided on each conductive contact, respective ones of the contacts
having one of said free ends being mated with respective ones of the conductive surfaces and the
other of the free ends extending from said housing for connection to an associated member, the
housing and contacts being capable of movement relative to the conductive surfaces, yet always
20 maintaining electrical contact with the conductive surfaces throughout the movement of the
contacts relative to the conductive surfaces.